

# “SHARING THE GOOD NEWS”

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Due to the Thanksgiving holidays  
Naomi Circle will meet  
Wednesday, Nov 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm**

**Saturday, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>- F.L.C. with  
Ruth Maass AND Brenham  
Downtown Christmas Parade**

**Wednesday, Dec 7<sup>th</sup> – All  
Committees meeting @ 7 pm**

**Thursday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup> – Ruth Circle  
meeting 11 am**

**Saturday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Ladies Advent Luncheon 10-12**

**Sunday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup> – Pr. Tracy  
Brashears Schultz: Pr. Glenn  
Hohlt ordination anniversary  
celebration. Congregational  
meeting after worship service &  
Christmas Caroling 2 pm**

**Monday, Dec 12<sup>th</sup> – Mondays  
w/MayDell: day trip visit “painted  
churches” in Schulenburg**

**Tuesday, Dec 13<sup>th</sup> – 4H Club  
meeting 7 pm**

**Wednesday, Dec 14<sup>th</sup> –  
Confirmation Class 4:15 pm**

**Thursday, Dec 15<sup>th</sup> – Council  
Christmas Party 6 pm**

**Sunday, Dec 18<sup>th</sup> – Zion’s Drive-  
Thru Nativity**

**Saturday, Dec 24<sup>th</sup> Candlelight  
Worship Services 4 & 7 pm**

**Wednesday, Dec 28<sup>th</sup> – Naomi  
Circle @ 6:30 pm**

### Homebound

Charlie Bentke  
Elverna Borchardt  
Gene & JoAnn Draehn  
Laverne Ganske  
Dorothy & Bradley Grimm  
John & Darleen Hardin  
Josephine Helm  
Gertrude Krinke  
Weldon & Marjorie Krinke  
Veradell Lehde  
Alice Macik  
Bobby & Mary Lee Mertz  
Joyce Meyer  
Jannet Rosenbaum  
LaVerna Schiller  
Glenn Schroeder  
Nathan & Carolyn Zibilski

### Isle @ Watercrest (in C/S)

Alvin & Ruth Free

### Kruse Village

LaVerne Blum  
Gracy Lange  
Evelyn Plueckhahn

### Magnolia Assisted Living

Cn’t/Bellville, Tx  
Doris Blum  
Leroy Hodde

### Oak Haven Assisted Living

Bernice Vaughn (Industry)

### Silver Sage Assisted Living

Mary Lee Schneider

### 2022 Council Members

President: Marvin Spreen  
(979) 277-5956

Vice President:  
n/a

Secretary: Liz Capan  
(979) 661-9047

Treasurer: Sandy Blum  
(979) 830-3839

Witness: Chadd Neumann  
(979) 277-5382

Bldg/Grounds: Jason Blum  
(979) 203-9380

Parish Ed: Stacy Hardy  
(979) 421-2932

Worship: Joyce Boeker  
(979) 277-2271

Stewardship: Matt Supak  
(979) 203-4533

### Zion Lutheran Church

1800 FM 2679  
Brenham, Texas  
Church Phone (979) 836-7909

#### Email Address:

[zionsville1800@gmail.com](mailto:zionsville1800@gmail.com)

#### Website:

[zionsvillelutheranchurch.org](http://zionsvillelutheranchurch.org)

#### YouTube:

[ZionLutheran-Brenham](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

# Monthly Meeting of Zion Lutheran Church Council

Date: November 16, 2022

Current Membership  
411 Baptized, 342 Confirmed

**Attendance:** Church Staff: Pastor Glenn Hohlt

Executive Committee: Present : Marvin Spreen, Liz Capan, Sandy Blum

Board Chairs: Present: Matt Supak, Chadd Neumann, Stacy Hardy. Absent: Jason Blum, Joyce Boeker

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Glenn

➤ Pastor's Report –Pastor Glenn

## Reports

- Financial Report –Presented by Sandy Blum, the report was reviewed and approved.
- Approval of minutes of previous meeting

## Committee reports

- Worship Service:  
October 23, October 30, November 6, November 13.
- Pastor Glenn schedule for this past month always busy about God's work.
  - Council meeting
  - All committee meeting night
  - Naomi Circle
  - Confirmation, October 19, November 2, November 16
  - Lutheran World Relief loading
  - Beer and hymn fest
  - Volunteer at Ira's – Burton Bridge Ministry
  - Advent-Epiphany planning
  - Five Nursing Home Communion
  - Individual pastoral care conversations in person/phone
  - Weekly sermon/worship preparation
  - Daily devotion
  - Preparations for vacation time
  - Newsletter article
  - Sermon preparation
  - Bulletin preparation
  - Hospital follow ups
  - Vacation-November 20-23 Donna Krueger, TEEM (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries) will preside Sunday service on November 20. There will be no communion.
- Spent time in prayer and meditation.
- Council received a Thank You Card from Pastor Glenn to Zion church members and council. Thanking everyone for the gift of recognition of Pastor Appreciation Month during October.
- Building-Grounds-Jason Blum absent.
- Parish Education-Stacy Hardy
  - Discussed Lutherhill Summer Camp for 2023. Selected the week of June 18-23<sup>rd</sup> as recommended week for Zion's youth who would like to attend.
  - Discussed ideas for Christmas gifts for homebound that Sunday School students and Confirmation students could make.
  - Scheduled Christmas caroling for Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 2pm.
  - Selected this year's ornament for the church to give to Sunday School students as a Christmas gift.

- Discussed the Nativity Drive Thru scheduled for Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> . The Naomi Circle will provide a meal afterwards for the participants and helpers.
- Stewardship-Matt Supak
  - Pastor Glenn's 25<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary is scheduled for December 11, following the Congregational meeting.
    - Beef stew will be served at lunch.
    - Members are asked to bring homemade loaf bread, cornbread or a dessert.
    - Church will furnish tea.
- Witness-Chadd Neumann-Birthday cards and Christmas cards are being sent out.
  - Discussed places to advertise the Nativity Drive Thru and Christmas Eve services. Suggestions were The Banner Press and the radio. Other suggestions were The Bulletin Board and Chamber of Commerce. Chadd will follow up with suggestions.
- Worship-Joyce Boeker-absent
- From the President-Marvin Spreen
  - Marvin read Pastor Glenn's Thank You card to Zion Lutheran Church and Council. Pastor Glenn very much appreciated the recognition and gifts from the church members and council during October for Pastor Appreciation Month.
  - December 11. observance of Pastor Glenn's 25<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary-Sunday,
    - Pastor Tracey from the synod office will be here and preside over the service. After the service we will have a congregational meeting to approve the budget for the next year and elect new council members. Then the congregation is welcome to join Pastor Glenn in the Family Life Center for Beef Stew meal to celebrate his 25<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary.
  - Discussed and approved budget for 2023.
  - Council nominees and committee assignments
  - Discussed payment for the new A/C-agreed to use General funds account.
  - Steinfeld Estate deposit--\$1,500.00
  - Confirmed dates and times
    - December 15 Council meeting/party –6PM , Texas Seafood and Steak House
    - December 24 -Christmas Eve Candlelight Services will be at 4PM and 7PM.
  - Cost to members for Portals of Prayer (currently \$7/yr -35 copies)  
Previous years cost : based on quantity ordered:
    - 2015 –Digest size \$11.80 Large print \$14.90
    - 2018 – Digest size \$12.30 Large print \$15.90
    - 2022- Digest size \$15.30 Large print \$17.80
 Due to rising cost new cost to members will be \$10/yr
- Closing prayer: Lord's Prayer led by Marvin.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Liz Capan*

✧ The December Council Meeting/Party will be held @ Texas Seafood & Steak House restaurant Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm

✧ Christmas Eve Candlelight Services will be held December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm & 7 pm



## *From The Interim Pastor's Desk*

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Telling the Story, Again, for the First Time!

In some ways I'm a real scrooge about Christmas...so much pressure to have the perfect Thomas Kinkade picture Christmas: perfect gift, perfect worship, perfect family gathering, etc. the most wonderful time of the year. There's nothing wrong with making this a special time of the year, but what gets lost in the process?

I understand that retail businesses rely heavily on Christmas sales in order to survive. In addition, Christmas carols, decorations, parties, etc. help to put us in a different mood than other times of the year.

However, our faith tradition includes the season of Advent, the preparation that leads us to the celebration: Today is the Nativity of our Lord Jesus, according to the flesh. What's different about how we understand God, how we live our lives, how we engage with each other because of the birth, life, death, and resurrection of the babe born in a manger?

The kingdom of God has come near. That may seem small but it's a complete shift, a change of mind, i.e. repentance. Jesus wants us to know that God is in us, in others, in the world and encourages us to wait, look, observe, notice, awaken to God's presence.

Maybe we can think of it this way: it's the already but not yet. Theologians since the time of Christ have used this statement to describe the Word became flesh. We celebrate the already-in Bethlehem of Judea Christ was born of Mary...the hopes and dreams of all the years are met in thee tonight. But we still wait-the not yet part-for the fulfillment, the completion of God's work. In the in-between-time we love others as God loved us through Jesus' message of love and his acts of love.

So maybe it's not so much about when the symbols of Christmas begin to appear, or how often we hear the carols or how long the stores have Christmas decorations for sale, but how we experience all of those symbols of the already but not yet.

NT Wright says our symbols have real power, but not in a magical or superstitious sense. Christmas lights, carols, decorations tell the story but our Advent tradition reminds that there is purpose in waiting and watching. So as the lights come up, Christmas Carols play over store audio systems, and decorations lose their luster of midday to objects below, may we carry within us the silent, holy night where all is calm and all is bright that brings peace to earth, not by the absence of conflict and chaos, but by a little baby bringing the birth of God's presence in the midst of the hustle and bustle.

So much of our traditional Christmas celebrating and preparation was lost during the pandemic. Even our worship was muted.

So maybe this year we can use that experience as an opportunity to get to know on a deeper level the symbols and traditions of the season. Maybe this year, every gathering we have is a prayerful one that reminds us of the already but not yet, the first, second and daily coming of God to earth. Maybe this year as we hang the lights and decoration on trees, houses, fences, around windows, and in God's house, take the time to consider the light of the world they represent, a light no darkness can overcome or tell the story behind the ornament. Maybe this year as we gather with our family, friends, co-workers, and faith community, we take time to remember that Jesus' birth brings a new kingdom not of this world to a story we have lived many times but do so once again with a peace that passes all human understanding.

So however you celebrate this year, whether you do something totally different than ever before, do exactly what you have done in years past, or something somewhere in between, take time to become aware of Emmanuel, God with us, love come down at Christmas, love resurrected, love incarnate, birth, life, "God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God...who for us and for our salvation...came down from heaven." Sleep in heavenly peace, my friends! Merry Christmas!

*Pastor Glenn*



*Thank you, Zion Lutheran for taking the opportunity to remember me during Pastor Appreciation Month. Special thanks to the council for continuing to support God's work in this place. The gifts are so appreciated. What a blessing to serve along side such giving and faithful disciples.*

*Pastor Glenn*

## ***Special Anniversary Celebration:***

***On December 11<sup>th</sup>*** we will observe and celebrate Pastor Glenn's 25<sup>th</sup> Ordination anniversary. Pastor Tracey Breashears Schultz from the synod office will be here to conduct the morning worship service.

***After worship,*** we will have our annual December Congregational meeting to elect new council members and approve our 2023 budget.

***Following the meeting,*** we will have a beef stew luncheon to celebrate with Pastor Glenn. Please bring a loaf of homemade bread, cornbread or dessert if you plan to attend (Zion will provide the beef stew and tea). There will be a sign-up sheet available in the foyer.

We hope everyone will be available to attend and make this an extra special occasion for Pastor Glenn



### ***A Message from the Council President***

*I want to thank the council members that are serving the last month of their terms: those stepping down are Joyce Boeker, Jason Blum and Stacy Hardy. It has been great working with all of you and on behalf of the congregation, THANK YOU SO MUCH for everything you did during your term! I also want to welcome the members that are stepping up to serve. We will be electing four new members: Charles Hahn will serve out the remaining 2-year term of Doris Redman who resigned earlier this year. We want to thank Doris for the time that she did serve. Melisa Bosse and Sandra Lange will become our newest officers. At the time of printing this newsletter, the nominating committee is still working to find the 4<sup>th</sup> new person willing to serve. I want to express our thanks to the nominating committee for all their hard work.*

*Marvin Spreen*

*Council President*



## **TAKE A COUNTRY WALK!**

*Do you enjoy experiencing God's Handiwork in nature? Caravan with Zion's Sunday school class on January 8<sup>th</sup> as soon as worship ends to Mill Creek Rest Area for some fun. The roadside park which sits beside the old Kunkel Store and home (right before FM 1948) offers a beautiful scenic*



*creek bed and wooded area. There are picnic tables for a short devotion time and a snack. This will be our Sunday school hour and we will return to the church at 11am, or you may simply depart from the rest area to enjoy the rest of your day.*

*We hope you will join us and that this will be the first of some similar outings throughout the year! Everyone is welcome to take part in this activity!*

*Talk to Mary Keienburg or Allison Crowson for more information or if you have ideas for a snack. In the event of bad weather, we will reschedule*



*Don't Forget!!! If you have you ever wanted to visit the "Painted Churches of Schulenburg" - Well now you can. Join us December 12<sup>th</sup> for a day trip by coach bus to venture over and see the 5 painted churches and then enjoy a lunch at Oak Ridge Smokehouse! Cost for the meal and trip is \$25/person.*

*This will be our Mondays with MayDell get together for December. Everyone is invited - please **RSVP** to Allison Crowson @ 979-277-5768 **ASAP**, the mini-charter bus only holds 40 passengers so don't delay!*

# Youth News

## SAVE THE DATES:

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Zion will have a float in the Brenham Christmas Parade. Cindy Lyles is taking charge of this event. The float's theme is "Frost the Snowman". All congregation members are invited to participate.

Confirmation Class – **Wednesday, Dec 7<sup>th</sup>** @ 4:15 pm

No Sunday school on December 11<sup>th</sup>, December 25<sup>th</sup> or January 1<sup>st</sup>

**December 11<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Caroling to Zion's homebound members.



**December 18<sup>th</sup>** – Zion will present a Drive-Thru Live Nativity on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 pm. Participating will be the Sunday school classes, the Confirmation class and other youth & adults. Lots of volunteers are needed to present this event to the community. Please consider participating...children, youth and adults!

How can you and your family participate?

- Be a character in one the nativity scenes (there will be several new scenes this year)
- Help set up on the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup> (MANY hands are needed)
- Help take down after the event
- Lend us spotlights, Christmas lights or long extension cords
- Drive through and experience the Christmas Story come to life!

Please contact Mary Keienburg, Linda Wagner, Beverly Roehling or the church office to volunteer!

*Thank you, Mary Keienburg*



# *Zion's Confirmation Class*



*Volunteering at the Burton Bridge Ministry Thanksgiving Meal on Nov 20<sup>th</sup>*

Shelby McKee, Dylan McKee, Avery Maass, Coy Gurka, Luke Hardy, Nate Rau, Kade Rau



**Colt Niemeyer**  
*Receiving his 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Bible*



**Donald Huebner**  
M/M James Vaughn

**Robert Preuss**  
M/M James Vaughn

**And continue to hold in your prayers:**

\*Zion’s Call Committee;  
Shane Bentke, Melisa Bosse, Trey Hardy, Melonie Rau, Gary Wagner, and Lori Wittner.

\*The Future Called Pastor of Zion and his/her family.

# Attendance

Date	Worship in-house	Worship Mail-out	Sunday School	On-Line
10/30	81	32	8	
11/06	84	32	9	
11/13	63	32	7	
11/20	54	32	7	



Prayers thru the last month of September have gone out to:

- Family & friends of Florence Borchardt
- Lanie Blum
- Shirley Ganske
- Kurt, Lisa & Baby Dawson Jaskiski
- Marjorie Krinke
- Holly Lehde
- Larissa Maass
- Alice Macik
- Jannet Rosenbaum
- LaVerna Schiller
- Mary Lee Schneider
- Dean Winkelmann
- Nathan & Carolyn Zibilski
- Stephen Broussard
- Charlotte Chavez
- Wayne Fuchs
- Keith Kitty
- Lynlee Kocurek
- Darrell Meyer
- Lorilai Schultz
- Sandra Zettle



Articles for the January newsletter must be submitted by December 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank You

# Offerings

Date	Regular	Memorials
10/30	32	5318.68
11/06	32	4681.681
11/13	32	1785.68
11/20	32	2333.68



Questions:

1. When a man said to Jesus, “who is my neighbor?” what parable did Jesus reply with?
2. What happens to the man who “puts his hand to the plough and looks back”?
3. What did Samson do to the Philistines’ crops after discovering his bride had been given to someone else?
4. Who was Jesus talking to when he taught the Lord’s Prayer?
5. Ananias and Sapphira sold some property and secretly kept part of the proceeds for themselves. What happened to them?

1. The good Samaritan [Luke 10:29]	2. He is not fit for the Kingdom of God [Luke 9:62]
3. He burned them [Jdg 15:5] 4:17]	4. The Disciples [Matt 5:1] 5. They died [Acts 5:1-11]



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Hayes Weirich	1-Dec
Jim Helfrich	2-Dec
Jeff Maitland	3-Dec
Ella Pieper	4-Dec
Cody Supak	5-Dec
Emily Pohorelsky	7-Dec
Tyler Smith	7-Dec
Linda Boehnemann	9-Dec
Pamela Zibilski	11-Dec
Quint Mantey	12-Dec
JoAnn Marburger	12-Dec
Cooper Raley	13-Dec
Michael Redman	13-Dec
Tim Pepper	14-Dec
Mike Davis	15-Dec
Shirley Ganske	16-Dec
Holly Lehde	16-Dec
James Keienburg	17-Dec
R. W. Luhn	17-Dec
Shane Bentke	19-Dec
Delfred Gaskamp	23-Dec
Kelly Pohorelsky	23-Dec
Lisa Jasinski	26-Dec
Gracy Lange	28-Dec
Elmer Marburger	28-Dec
Veradell Lehde	30-Dec
Kristie McKee	30-Dec

Cleo Jaeger	1-Dec
Fredrick Pelkemeyer	2-Dec
Lauren Pepper	2-Dec
Matt Zibilski	5-Dec
Allison Bentke	7-Dec
Jim Helfrich	7-Dec
Walter Rodenbeck	7-Dec
Veryl Neumann	8-Dec
Ryan Rodenbeck	8-Dec
Bobby Mertz	9-Dec
Joyce Meyer	11-Dec
Darleen Hardin	12-Dec
Quint Mantey	12-Dec
Kathy Stelter	13-Dec
Stacy Hardy	15-Dec
Marla Maitland	15-Dec
Bruce Muske	15-Dec
Beverly Koehler	16-Dec
Gloria Stoddard	16-Dec
Kathy Blum	17-Dec
Doris Redman	18-Dec
Bill Keienburg	22-Dec
LaVerna Schiller	22-Dec
Doris Blum	25-Dec
JoAnn Marburger	28-Dec
Mary Lee Schneider	29-Dec
Robert Ziese	29-Dec

Wayne and Joy Fuchs	2-Dec
Matt and Bobbi Jo Supak	10-Dec
Stan and Jeanette Ford	11-Dec
David and Donnie Reynolds	12-Dec
Nathan and Carolyn Zibilski	18-Dec
John and Darleen Hardin	27-Dec



Time to order your Poinsettias for the holiday season. Order forms are available - Poinsettias \$12.00/each. Deadline to place order December 12<sup>th</sup>.

# December



Zion Lutheran Church  
1800 FM 2679  
Brenham, TX 77833  
Phone: 979-836-7909

[www.zionsvillelutheranchurch.org](http://www.zionsvillelutheranchurch.org)

Email: [zionsville1800@gmail.com](mailto:zionsville1800@gmail.com)

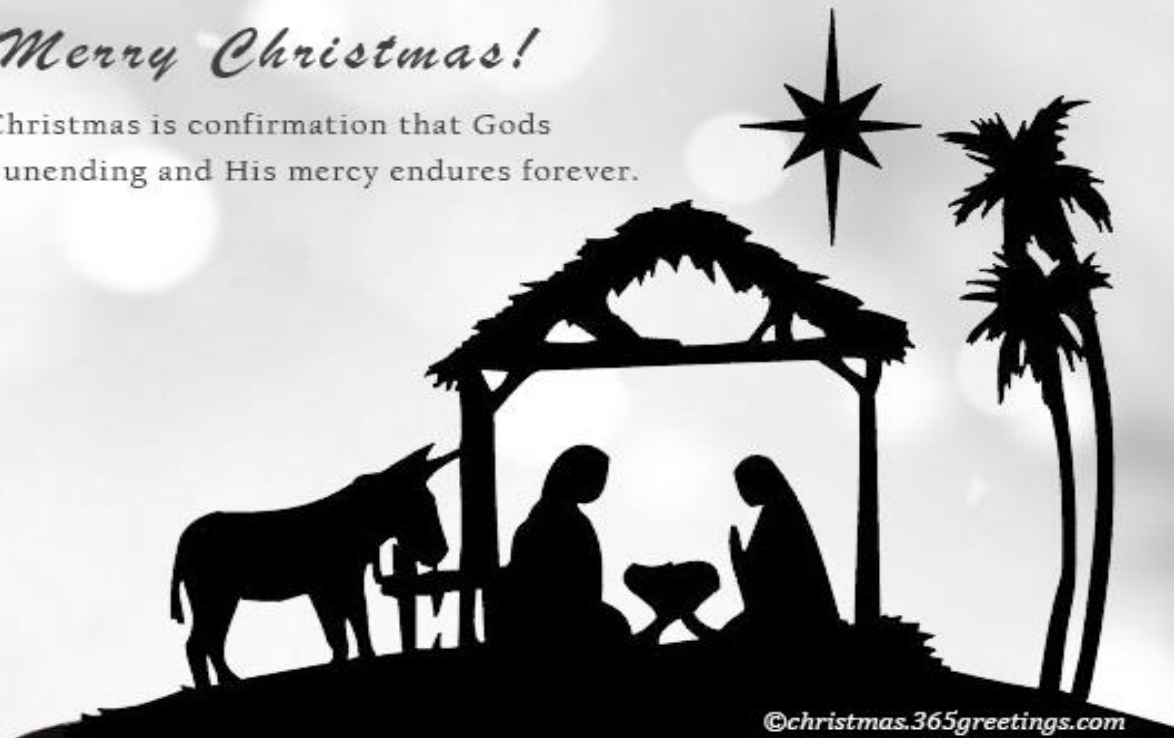
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*Merry Christmas!*

Christmas is confirmation that Gods  
love is unending and His mercy endures forever.



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